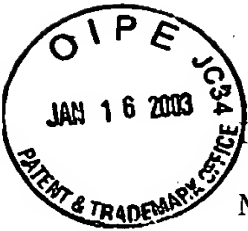


212705US3



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

#18
Election
1-2203

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Masanori MATSUDA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/928,352

FILED: August 14, 2001

FOR: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR
FEEDING SHEETS, IMAGE...

:

: EXAMINER: MACKEY, P.

:

: GROUP ART UNIT: 3651

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

RECEIVED

JAN 21 2003

GROUP 3600

In response to the Office Action dated December 16, 2002, Applicants elect
without traverse the invention of Group I, Claims 1-18 and 21, drawn to a sheet
separating device.

Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable action on the merits.



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Respectfully submitted,

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